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Ex-confederates will be interested to hear that the confederacy finally became a completely "socialized state" in which the government absorbed the entire economic life of the community (p. 150). On a par with this is the statement that negroes are subjected to "Jim Crow" laws in the north (p. 199).

Yet all these are minor faults. The book as a whole is well calculated to achieve its purpose and make the leading facts of American history and the principal American institutions intelligible to the general French reader. M. Weill displays a remarkable grasp of the significance of American history, a clear comprehension of its leaders' personalities, a deep insight into the course of the development of the country. His style is clear, forcible, swift, and at times brilliant. His book is well-proportioned, the events are selected with judgment and treated with skill. Except for his "abolitionist" tendency he is very fair, especially in treating Franco-American conflicts, such as the Genet episode and the X-Y-Z affair. It is to be regretted that the plan of the book limited him to a brief political sketch, with only glances at economic and social movements. It is to be hoped that he will be encouraged to revise and enlarge this brochure into an adequate volume.

Eighteen chapters comprise the narrative of the book, of which the first chapter summarizes the situation in 1787 and analyzes the constitution. The narrative concludes with the entry of the United States into the world war, and then follows a brief discussion of such typical American phenomena as the public school, municipal government, the suffrage movement, and the like. There are two large maps, a graph, and four pictures. There is no index, but an analytical table of contents is provided.

In the main, American works such as those of McMaster and Rhodes have been followed, though such French works as DeTocqueville's classic have been used. If the book is read in the same admirable spirit in which it was written, it should promote Franco-American friendship.

MILLEDGE L. BONHAM, JR.

*Les États-Unis d'Amérique et le conflit Européen.* 4 août 1914–6 Avril 1917. Par Achille Viallate, professeur à l'École des sciences politiques. (Paris: Librairie Félix Alcan, 1919. 313 p. 3 fr. 50)

This little book gives a rapid summary of the financial, commercial, industrial, and political effects of the world war on the life and thought of the United States and traces the course of events, with the development of sentiment which led to the declaration of war, April 6, 1917. It is based almost entirely on American sources — books, periodicals, and newspapers published in this country and Canada, supplemented by

American contributions to British and French journals. Monsieur Viallate's style is clear, forcible, and interesting, though he does like to drag in an esoteric phrase now and then.

He does well to remind us of several points that we are apt to forget, such as that Mr. Roosevelt at first strongly approved the president's proclamation of neutrality and only began denouncing Mr. Wilson some months later for not protesting against the invasion of Belgium. It is well, also, to note how a thoughtful, well-informed Frenchman regards our much-abused president. Discussing the accomplishments of Mr. Wilson's first term, M. Viallate says: "Never has a president obtained from Congress in so short a time the adoption of so many important measures. Mr. Wilson succeeded in so doing thanks only to a real moral authority over the leaders of his party in the House and Senate and a great tenacity united with able diplomacy. . . . From the earliest months of his presidency he knew how to overcome the opposition in his own party and rally to the support of the measures of reform he had at heart the radical elements of the Republican party: he had become the veritable leader of the moderate progressives, desirous of accomplishing a serious and durable work" (pp. 247-249).

M. Viallate shows a clear grasp of the forces at work in the United States from 1914 to 1917, and analyzes them with a judicial fairness. His monograph should serve to help his compatriots realize and appreciate what it actually meant, when, as a "direct result of the stupid and criminal aggression of Germany," the United States "abandoned their traditional policy of isolation" and joined the allies. He considers this decision as even "more important, from the viewpoint of the immediate political future," than the consolidation of the British empire.

American students of the world war will profit by a careful reading of this friendly scholar's account of our entry into the struggle.

M. L. B.

*The American Red Cross in the great war.* By Henry P. Davison, chairman of the war council of the American Red Cross. (New York: Macmillan company, 1919. 303 p. \$3.00)

A large number of the "women, children and men, who through the American Red Cross worked and sacrificed that the miseries of war might be alleviated" and to whom the book is dedicated will be interested in this account of the far-reaching work made possible by their contributions of time and money. Drawing his material from the files in the national headquarters, Mr. Davison, who was chairman of the war council appointed by President Wilson to direct the war-time activities of the American Red Cross, has touched upon every phase of that